Numb. 3.

The English LUCIAN:

OR,

Weekly Discoveries

OF THE

Witty Intrigues, Comical Passages, and Remarkable Transactions in *Town* and *Country*: With Reflections on the *Vices* and *Vanities* of the *Times*.

From Wednesday the 19th of January, to Wednesday the 26th, 1698.

Dowgate-Hill, January 19. *From my Lodgings near the Lay-Stall.*

BY this you may perceive what Shifts a poor Stranger and Traveller is expos'd to in *London*. But it seems *Lucian* had not learn'd *English* enough to be rightly Understood at first Reading: This therefore is to give notice, That, ever since his first Arrival, he has been a Disciple to a *Germaniz'd Britain*, or an *English Almain*, who for Three Guineas down, and Seven when he makes good his undertaking, which will be at least Seven Months after the *Greek Calends*, will Teach any Living Creature, endued with Sermonical Organs, to Speak seven several *Languages*, *Speeches*, *Dialects* or *Locutions*, which you please, as Readily, Distinctly or Articulately as *Friar Bacon*'s Brazen Head, or the Female Orators at *Billingsgate*. But for fear you should be mistaken in my Master, He is a Grammarian Cap-a-pee, from *In Speech* to the end of *Prosodia*: A nice Logician *Secundum Keckermannum*: And a meer *Natural Philosopher*; for if he has one dram of true Knowledge more than She Dubb'd him with at his Creation, he ought to be seiz'd on as a *Felon*, and shew how he came by his Goods. Under such a Tutor you must needs suppose me to be, at least by this time, an Accomplish'd Schollar: And having by his careful Instruction become capable of perfectly Reading good *English*; I thought the next step was, to pitch upon Good Authors, and asking Advice of a Cast Parson, he told me those most in use and request were the fittest, upon whose Counsel I began with the *News-Papers*.

London, *January* 22. We are thereby informed that the Wind was then at E. N. E. which made it Freeze for several days and Snow *abundantly* which makes the Ice, observe the Language, float so *abundantly*, both above and below (*Susq*; *Deq*;) *Bridge*, to the Fatal Obstruction of the Passing and Repassing of the Wherries: Nay, so dreadful was it, that the very Riding *Ships*, those Lofty *Argosies*, were obliged, to save their *Cables* & *Harsars*, by *Sculking* under the *Wharfes* and *Keys*, like so many *Beggars* under a *Hedge*, to the great Conveniency of the *Custom-House* Officers. But now, God be thanked, the Weather begins to *Break*, and we hope in a little time to see 'em Riding again at *Anchor*, and take possession of their former *Births*, in the middle of the *Channel*: The *Streets* at present are so wet, that there's more danger of catching cold by bad Shoes, than in making work for the Surgeon by breaking old *Bones*. And we doubt not but when 'tis Dry 'twill be cleaner.

Sam's, Jan. 25. This day we receiv'd Intelligence of the Birth of a Pair of *Twin-Bantlings*, the Legitimate Off-spring of a famous *Youthful Frollick*, which was thus: A politick young Lady unwilling to contract the *Gordion Knot* of *Matrimony*, without a certain assurance of the so sweet talk'd of *Nuptial Joys*, had recourse to a famous *Astrologer* near *Baldwins-Gardens*, for an *Antidote* against the *Poyson* of *Copulation*, and accordingly receiv'd a high priz'd *Sigile*, value one Guinnea, which, according to direction, she quilted in the left side of her Stays: Thus Fenc'd, *Venom-proof*, against the Assaults of *Love*, she deck'd her self in all the Alluring *Habiliments* of a *Court Miss*, nothing of *Patch* and *Paint*, *Fineness* and *Sprucery*, necessary to captivate a *Noble Stallion*, being wanting: Pursuant to these splendid preparations, at Night she took her place in the Pitt of the Royal Theatre, where long she had not sate, ere *Beaux*, like Bees about a Honey Pott, buzz'd about her: In fine, amongst the great variety of Choice that frankly offer'd their Service to Conduct her home, she pitch'd her Fancy on a *Young-Man* of the *Law*, a *clear Limb'd*, *Broad Shoulder'd Blade*, betwixt whom a Rendezvous was soon appointed, at a famous Tavern near *Chairing-Cross*; where, after a Hearty Cup of the juice of the Grape, such active *Feats* of *Love* were perform'd as quite repell'd the *Counter-Charm* aforesaid. The *Youthful Lady*, we understand, well lik'd the *Banquet*; Tho, for the present (at least) so far out of love with the *Sauce*, that she's resolv'd to prosecute the Astrologer as a Publick Cheat.

From my Office, Jan. 25. This day I receiv'd the following Letter, written by a Gentleman lately *Marri'd*, to his Friend going to be *Marri'd*.

Sir,

THE exceeding pleasure of your last good Company did so Monopolize my Thoughts, That I could not but Dream of our mutual Enjoyments; nay, the Contemplation of your Kindnesses,